

# Montana State Library

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## MONTANA LABOR MARKET

Monthly Review of  
EMPLOYMENT OUTLOOK, LABOR SUPPLY, LABOR DEMAND, CURRENT EMPLOYMENTMONTANA STATE EMPLOYMENT SERVICE  
Division of Unemployment Compensation Commission of Montana

Albert F. Root, Commissioner

Chadwick H. Smith, Chairman

Paul R. McClure, Commissioner

Mitchell Building — P. O. Box 1728 — Helena, Montana

FL-189.



NOVEMBER, 1958

Seasonal Employment  
Decline Less Than In  
Former Years

Number of non-farm wage earners on October payrolls of Montana employers was estimated at 168,200 at mid month according to figures compiled by the U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics in cooperation with the Unemployment Compensation Commission. The current figure is down 2,600 from September's adjusted estimate of 170,800 but not with the force of previous years when the September-October decline was much higher: 5,200 in 1957; 3,300 in 1956 and 3,900 in 1955.

## Total Civilian Working Force

Although a sample survey of the population provides the only comprehensive measure of the entire labor force, both employed and unemployed, the U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics working with a sample formula recommended by the U. S. Bureau of Employment Security estimated Montana's total civilian labor force at 270,000 at mid-September. Breakdown of the figure follows:

|                  |         |
|------------------|---------|
| Total Employment | 257,400 |
| Non-agricultural | 192,300 |
| Agricultural     | 65,100  |
| Unemployment     | 12,600  |

## Metal Mining—the Forward Look?

Prospects in metal mining started to show improvement during October as approximately 600 workers were recalled to employment around and under the hills of Butte, with the majority of the miners channeled to zinc mining operations closed the past several months. Copper, lead and zinc, responding to a series of price rises, more lively demand, import quotas and strikes abroad brought about increased production and employment at the mines. The new signs brought Butte only to the edge of optimism. There will have to be more before the mining city can even match the greatness of her past.

## Three Industries Gain

Manufacturing showed a sizeable gain over September compilations as employment in food and kindred products went up 1,000 as the four sugar refineries in the State were staffed for the season runs. This carried total manufacturing employment totals 500 over the previous month, 100 higher than last year. All mining was up 100 from September, showing its first monthly gain since February, 1957. There were 1,800 more workers engaged in contract construction in October this year than a year ago, with a gain of 100 over the September figure. Normally October brings receding employment totals in construction, but a heavy schedule of state-wide construction contracts coupled with favorable weather pushed employment upward. Shortages of some skilled building craftsmen existed during the month.

NORMAL SEASONAL PRESSURES BEGIN TO CUT  
INTO EMPLOYMENT TOTALS AS OCTOBER ENDS

Reflecting seasonal aspects of some phases of Montana industry, employment totals started the downward trend as the month ended. Biggest losses occurred in the trade and service industries as the tourist season ended and resort areas were closed for the season; each of these major groups were down 1,500 from the previous month. Total service industries, however, were up 400 from the comparable period last year, but total trade was down 1,200 for the same period. Contract construction employment totals, normally controlled by weather conditions at this time of year, showed a gain of 100 over September, and 1,800 over October of last year. Gains in this industrial group, although substantial, were not of sufficient volume to overshadow seasonal losses in other major industry groups. Impact of increased employment totals in the metal mining industry will show its effect on future reports. Eliminating seasonal industries, accountable for the major portion of employment decline, labor demand during the month in the usually stable industrial groups was only slightly below that of the busy mid-summer months and compares favorably with October of previous years.

## UCC Claims 1,000 Less Than Last Year

Despite normal seasonal layoffs and start of a new federal program effective October 27, 1958, extending unemployment insurance coverage to ex-servicemen, Montanans claiming unemployment compensation benefits for the week ending November 7, 1958 were 975 less than the comparable period last year. Recall of workers to metal mining, high levels of employment in contract construction, lumbering and logging, and manufacturing joined in reducing unemployment compensation claim totals. Women comprise one-third of the State's total claim load, with a good portion of weekly claim increases this time of the year attributed to women who work seasonally in trade and service industries in national parks and other resort areas and who claim benefits as permitted by state law when these activities end for the season.

## Work-Applicant Count in Review

|           | 1958   | 1957   | 1956   | 1955   | 1954   | 1953   | 1952   | 1951   |
|-----------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| January   | 21,533 | 14,792 | 12,676 | 12,887 | 12,270 | 10,616 | 10,370 | 11,685 |
| March     | 23,394 | 14,930 | 12,663 | 11,979 | 11,075 | 9,323  | 9,392  | 10,844 |
| May       | 15,233 | 9,032  | 5,105  | 5,565  | 6,191  | 4,324  | 3,276  | 4,312  |
| July      | 11,784 | 6,419  | 3,807  | 4,628  | 4,283  | 3,249  | 2,191  | 3,260  |
| September | 8,065  | 6,328  | 2,889  | 2,781  | 3,782  | 2,288  | 1,388  | 2,304  |
| November* | 9,100  | 12,564 | 6,453  | 6,968  | 5,619  | 5,048  | 4,135  | 4,341  |

\*Estimated

## Tourist Trade—Big Seasonal Factor

An October deficit of 3,000 workers in the combined trade and service industries brings to sharp realization the impact of seasonality pressures on employment totals in those industries which serve the tourist trade. The annual pattern is the same: Spring brings the influx and Fall the exodus and in between direct benefits of increased customers accrue to hotels, motels, camps, cafes and bars, and service stations and garages. Employment in the trade and service industries is keyed to the volume of tourism—starting in May and declining sharply in October affecting chiefly sales clerks, cooks and waitresses, fountain and drive-in help, service station attendants, bartenders, hotel and resort clerks, and maids.

## Highway Contract Awards Continue

Current highway contracts and new awards show good promise for high level employment in road and bridge construction. Work is expected to continue but volume will be lessened as weather conditions worsen. During October, 1,425 men were em-

ployed in this activity, with six projects completed during the month. Good to fair progress was reported on the remaining projects. In late October, eight more contracts were awarded, six subject to right-of-way clearance, four were withdrawn due to right-of-way difficulties, and a court injunction prevented the Highway Commission from opening bids on three others.

## Some Construction Near Completion

Seasonal employment peaks at airbases in Great Falls and Glasgow and Noxon Rapids Dam project near Thompson Falls started to decline as some contracts were completed. Noxon Dam employment figures dropped to 548, down 250 from September's high with some idled workers absorbed in other construction in the area. State-wide, contractors on a variety of building projects were pushing outside work toward completion as moderate weather remained. Inside work on enclosed structures should carry through the winter months keeping employed a good number of building craftsmen.

## Along the Hiring Line— Field Summary, Nov. 1

**ANACONDA, Deer Lodge, Philipsburg**—(305 jobseekers, 109 new, 193 men, 112 women). Increased smelter hiring as zinc concentrator repaired after several months breakdown. Employment stable with most openings filled by reshuffling plant personnel as needed. Construction projects on schedule and fully staffed. Potato harvest completed with other agricultural activities limited at present.

**Billings, Columbus, Hardin, Hysham, Laurel, Red Lodge, Roundup**—(1,193 jobseekers, 558 new, 679 men, 514 women). Good volume of building construction in form of commercial structures, schools and churches. 95 men employed on highway overpass and cloverleaf intersection west of Billings. Construction start on shopping center delayed until spring. Spurt of railroad construction activity noted with 30 men recalled for rapping track. Wholesale and retail trade made good advances with heavy promotion and easy credit plans. Sugar beet harvest 99 per cent completed with factory to run another 67 days. Labor supply adequate to fill all anticipated needs.

**BOZEMAN, Ennis, Three Forks, Trident**—(401 jobseekers, 191 new; 267 men, 134 women). Shortage of experienced timber fallers as lumbering on full scale operations to build log stock pile for winter mill supply. Satisfactory progress on State College building program, including women's residence hall, green house, office and classroom building. Trident cement plant to operate with reduced staff during winter months. Agricultural activity slowed as most major operations completed. Labor supply adequate.

**BUTTE, Virginia City, Whitehall**—(1,644 jobseekers, 272 new; 1,178 men, 466 women). Return of approximately 650 miners to employment highlighted the Butte labor picture with continued hiring seen if prices and demand for copper are maintained or strengthened. Building and highway projects on limited scale with no new contracts in sight. Upsurge in mining stimulated railroad employment as ore transportation activity built to meet new demands. 400 Butte area workers returned as apple and potato harvest in western Montana completed. Labor supply sufficient to meet current demands.

**CULBANK**—(190 jobseekers, 72 new; 117 men, 73 women). Increased oil drilling activity occupies all experienced drillers and field workers. Radar base housing project 75 per cent completed. Other construction limited to remodeling jobs and some housing starts. Farm hiring down as grain harvest completed.

**DILLON**—(137 jobseekers, 63 new; 101 men, 36 women). Few workers employed on part of quarter million dollar and telephone

### Employment—

|                              | 1958<br>Oct. | 1958<br>Sept. | 1957<br>Oct. | 1950-1957<br>Oct. Avg. |
|------------------------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|------------------------|
| Industrial Employment        | 168,200      | 170,800       | 170,000      | 160,700                |
| New Job Applicants           | 3,619        | 3,637         | 3,844        | 2,648                  |
| Job Applicants, End of Month | 8,586        | 8,065         | 8,041        | 3,726                  |

### Insured Unemployment, Week of

|                           | Nov. 7<br>1958 | Oct. 10<br>1958 | Nov. 8<br>1957 | Avg. 48t<br>Oct. Wk.<br>1950-1957 |
|---------------------------|----------------|-----------------|----------------|-----------------------------------|
| New and Renewal Claims    | 1,183          | 811             | 1,403          | 625                               |
| Unemployed Weeks Filed    | 4,307          | 3,728           | 5,062          | 1,638                             |
| Total Unemployment Claims | 5,490          | 4,539           | 6,465          | 2,263                             |

building. College dormitory building 15 per cent completed with 16 employed on project. 12 miners engaged in drilling for samples of iron ore. Work began on city street oiling project; approximately four miles. 30 idled when mountain mine closed by heavy snows. Construction starts include 10 new homes; 30 employed.

**GLASGOW, Fort Peck, Malta, Opheim**—(119 jobseekers, 99 new; 63 men, 56 women). Airbase employees 1,176, 125 less than past month. Season employment peak past with some construction layoffs. Start of land leveling for 77 unit housing addition begun; progress of construction depends on weather. Agricultural activity holds steady; movement of hay and winter feeds expected to increase during the month.

**GLENDIVE, Circle, Wibaux**—(104 jobseekers, 82 new; 61 men, 43 women). Oil field activity and related trucking less than last year but expected to remain stable with little turn over. Construction includes good volume of home building and small city and state improvement projects, highway bridges, sewer project, service stations and grain elevator addition. Retail and wholesale trade normal for this time of year. Farm work lessened as major activities completed.

**GREAT FALLS, Choteau, Fort Benton, Stanford**—(910 jobseekers, 480 new; 469 men, 441 women). Good advances shown in wholesale and retail trade during the month. Service workers laid off as seasonal drive in establishments and other resort facilities closed for the winter. Completion of some airbase projects created surplus of construction laborers and carpenters, with most placed on other building projects. 120 new homes under construction. Work started on \$1,750,000 convalescent home and \$75,000 improvement to city water system. Favorable weather aided agricultural work and brought good crop yields.

**HAMILTON, Stevensville**—(181 jobseekers, 40 new; 125 men, 56 women). Apple and potato harvest completed during month with packing operations delayed until prices improve. Seasonal crews working Christmas tree harvest and some at sugar refinery at Missoula. Burned sawmill and Darby mine closure idled some workers. Construction at good level; expected to continue if weather favorable.

**HAVRE, Chinook, Harlem**—(181 jobseekers, 89 new; 104 men, 77 women). Non-agricultural employment outlook good depending on weather. Work on \$200,000 telephone project delayed temporarily, but 25 additional workers added to project. Stimulation of wholesale and retail trade seen as holiday buying season approaches. Most major farm activity completed with future outlook unsettled.

**HELENA, Boulder, Garrison, Townsend, White Sulphur Springs**—(504 jobseekers, 725 new; 337 men, 167 women). Layoff of service workers as tourist season neared close offset by good showing in wholesale and retail trades. Continuing increases evident as holiday buying season begins. Progress on main construction projects, including new bank building and high residential building. Surplus of unskilled workers and service occupations classifications. Farm labor demand decreasing and lower than year ago.

**KALISPELL, Columbia Falls, Eureka, Libby, Whitefish**—(689 jobseekers, 332 new; 412 men, 277 women). Start of Christmas tree harvest, stability in the lumbering business and increased activity in contract construction provided good area employment picture. Logging activity increased with additional fallers, heavy equipment operators and laborers hired. Opening of new shopping center employed 10 sales personnel. Industrial and commercial construction below par. Christmas tree harvest affected by some blight in fir tree species.

**LEWISTOWN, Harlowton, Ryegate, Winnett**—(112 jobseekers, 52 new; 81 men, 31 women). Snow and cold weather affected construction jobs and other outside projects. Local labor supply and demand in balance except for some technical openings. Workers returning to area after completion of work in other areas in and out of the state. Farm hiring down from last month but over last year.

**LIVINGSTON, Big Timber**—(200 jobseekers, 128 new; 91 men, 106 women). Construction steady on variety of building projects including bridges, commercial buildings and homes. Lumbering and logging working full force to build up winter supply of logs for mill use. Railroad employment

## NINE YEARS OF MONTANA INDUSTRIAL EMPLOYMENT TOTALS, BY MONTHS (in Thousands)

|      | Jan.  | Feb.  | March | April | May   | June  | July  | Aug.  | Sept. | Oct.  | Nov.  | Dec.  | Aver. |
|------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| 1950 | 132.2 | 132.2 | 135.2 | 142.1 | 147.3 | 153.6 | 154.9 | 157.1 | 156.8 | 152.2 | 150.7 | 148.8 | 147.0 |
| 1951 | 141.9 | 139.4 | 140.3 | 145.9 | 149.4 | 151.1 | 153.5 | 154.6 | 154.3 | 152.4 | 151.7 | 150.6 | 149.0 |
| 1952 | 140.7 | 139.7 | 143.0 | 149.7 | 153.8 | 159.9 | 159.5 | 161.2 | 160.4 | 157.9 | 156.0 | 154.9 | 153.2 |
| 1953 | 147.8 | 141.5 | 146.3 | 149.7 | 153.1 | 158.0 | 158.5 | 160.6 | 160.3 | 159.6 | 157.6 | 156.4 | 154.2 |
| 1954 | 146.7 | 145.5 | 147.2 | 151.1 | 155.7 | 161.6 | 164.1 | 165.4 | 154.8 | 153.9 | 158.2 | 155.7 | 155.0 |
| 1955 | 148.4 | 146.8 | 147.4 | 153.4 | 158.4 | 166.8 | 168.2 | 170.4 | 169.8 | 165.9 | 162.4 | 160.3 | 159.8 |
| 1956 | 154.3 | 152.1 | 154.2 | 160.7 | 167.0 | 175.0 | 175.7 | 177.5 | 176.9 | 173.6 | 167.9 | 165.2 | 166.7 |
| 1957 | 159.0 | 157.8 | 158.6 | 163.0 | 168.6 | 174.8 | 176.9 | 176.8 | 175.2 | 170.0 | 165.4 | 161.1 | 167.3 |
| 1958 | 154.6 | 151.4 | 151.7 | 157.1 | 163.5 | 169.6 | 170.4 | 171.8 | 170.8 | 168.2 |       |       |       |

## Along the Hiring Line— Field Summary, Nov. 1

(Continued from page Two)

steady with experienced machinists in demand. Seasonal layoffs in Yellowstone Park facilities completed as tourist season ended.

**MILES CITY, Baker, Ekalaka, Broadus, Forsyth, Jordan, Terry**—(166 jobseekers, 125 new; 109 men, 57 women). No appreciable change in labor market picture. Snow and cold weather affected both agricultural and non-agricultural activities. Radar base housing near the finished stage. Wet fields delayed farm work.

**MISSOULA, Drummond, Arlee, Superior**—(814 jobseekers, 285 new; 454 men, 360 women). Christmas tree harvest started with good progress maintained. Some experienced workers expected to be in short supply. Sugar refinery operations began October 4 to continue until December 1, two weeks longer than usual as result of excellent beet acreage. Lumbering and logging have high employment levels despite several burned out sawmills.

**POLSON**—(130 jobseekers, 46 new; 89 men, 41 women). Christmas tree industry engages 400 in cutting, sorting and baling. Some blight noted on area trees. Apple and potato harvest workers transferred to Christmas tree activities. New planer mill employs 50 with expected force expansion to 200 by early spring. Local building construction occupies approximately 70 craftsmen.

**SHELBY, Chester, Conrad**—(174 jobseekers, 67 new; 113 men, 61 women). Oil production activity increased during past few weeks with new hires noted. Start of construction clover-leaf highway interchange bogged down by right-of-way delays. Contract construction greater than last year; includes home building, grain storage facilities and general remodeling jobs. Farm activities include rock picking, fencing and fall plowing. Labor supply in balance.

**SIDNEY**, (56 jobseekers, 60 new; 31 men, 25 women). New home construction at peak with 17 current building projects nearing completion, including soft drink bottling plant, grain elevator and motel addition. Mild increase in area oil drilling during month, with some previously drilled wells being worked over and brought into production. Ideal weather continues, aided sugar beet harvest and contributed to excellent yields.

**THOMPSON FALLS, Hot Springs**—(177 jobseekers, 55 new; 140 men, 37 women). Employment level at Noxon Rapids Dam project declined as some phases of work completed; current total below 600. Road and bridge work approaches to Dam site continuing as weather permits. Lumbering and logging at peak production and Christmas tree cutting started. Farm work limited to routine repair of farm buildings, farm machinery and fence repair. Winter wheat shows good growth.

**WOLF POINT, Plentywood, Scobey**—(199 jobseekers, 80 new; 134 men, 65 women). Oil drilling and exploration gained momentum with drilling rigs at Poplar and Wolf Point and one exploration crew at Plentywood. Increased home building along with new construction starts created some temporary shortages of carpenters during October. Start of holiday buying season provided sales clerk openings and good encouragement for continued advances.

## ESTIMATED EMPLOYMENT IN NON-AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRIES IN MONTANA (1)

(Compiled in co-operation with United States Bureau of Labor Statistics)

| INDUSTRY  | EMPLOYMENT       |                   |              | Net Change                  |                            |
|---|------------------|-------------------|--------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
|   | Oct.<br>1958 (2) | Sept.<br>1958 (3) | Oct.<br>1957 | Sept. '58<br>to<br>Oct. '58 | Oct. '57<br>to<br>Oct. '58 |
| <b>NON-AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRIES</b>              | 168,200          | 170,800           | 170,000      | —2,600                      | —1,800                     |
| <b>Manufacturing</b> .....                      | 21,700           | 21,200            | 22,000       | 500                         | — 300                      |
| Durable goods.....                              | 13,300           | 13,800            | 13,700       | — 500                       | — 400                      |
| Lumber and timber products.....                 | 8,000            | 8,400             | 7,900        | — 400                       | 100                        |
| Primary metals.....                             | 4,100            | 4,200             | 4,500        | — 100                       | — 400                      |
| Other (4).....                                  | 1,200            | 1,200             | 1,300        | 00                          | — 100                      |
| Nondurable goods.....                           | 8,400            | 7,400             | 8,300        | 1,000                       | 100                        |
| Food and kindred products.....                  | 4,500            | 3,500             | 4,600        | 1,000                       | — 100                      |
| Printing and publishing.....                    | 1,700            | 1,700             | 1,600        | 00                          | 100                        |
| Petroleum refining.....                         | 1,200            | 1,200             | 1,100        | 00                          | 100                        |
| Other (5).....                                  | 1,000            | 1,000             | 1,000        | 00                          | 00                         |
| <b>Mining</b> .....                             | 8,900            | 8,800             | 9,700        | 100                         | — 800                      |
| Metal mining.....                               | 4,900            | 4,900             | 5,900        | 00                          | —1,000                     |
| Coal, quarrying and nonmetallic.....            | 1,000            | 900               | 1,000        | 100                         | 00                         |
| Petroleum-natural gas production.....           | 3,000            | 3,000             | 2,800        | 00                          | 200                        |
| <b>Contract Construction</b> .....              | 15,900           | 15,800            | 14,100       | 100                         | 1,800                      |
| Contractors, building construction.....         | 5,300            | 5,000             | 5,100        | 300                         | 200                        |
| Contractors, other than building.....           | 6,600            | 7,000             | 4,200        | — 400                       | 2,400                      |
| Contractors, special trade.....                 | 4,000            | 3,800             | 4,800        | 200                         | — 800                      |
| <b>Transportation and utilities</b> .....       | 19,100           | 19,300            | 21,400       | — 200                       | —2,300                     |
| Interstate railroads.....                       | 10,300           | 10,400            | 11,600       | — 100                       | —1,300                     |
| Transportation except railroads.....            | 3,500            | 3,500             | 3,900        | 00                          | — 400                      |
| Utilities including communication.....          | 5,300            | 5,400             | 5,900        | — 100                       | — 600                      |
| <b>Trade</b> .....                              | 40,900           | 42,400            | 42,100       | —1,500                      | —1,200                     |
| Wholesale trade.....                            | 9,100            | 9,200             | 9,700        | — 100                       | — 600                      |
| Retail trade.....                               | 31,800           | 33,200            | 32,400       | —1,400                      | — 600                      |
| General merchandise and apparel.....            | 5,700            | 5,800             | 5,900        | — 100                       | — 200                      |
| Food stores.....                                | 4,800            | 4,900             | 4,800        | — 100                       | 00                         |
| Eating and drinking establishments.....         | 8,700            | 9,500             | 8,500        | — 800                       | 200                        |
| Automotive and filling stations.....            | 6,400            | 6,600             | 6,500        | — 200                       | — 100                      |
| Retail trade not elsewhere classified.....      | 6,200            | 6,400             | 6,700        | — 200                       | — 500                      |
| <b>Finance, insurance and real estate</b> ..... | 6,000            | 6,000             | 5,900        | 00                          | 100                        |
| <b>Services and miscellaneous</b> .....         | 22,500           | 24,000            | 22,100       | —1,500                      | 400                        |
| Hotels, rooming houses, camps, etc.....         | 3,200            | 4,300             | 3,100        | —1,100                      | 100                        |
| Personal services.....                          | 2,700            | 2,700             | 2,600        | 00                          | 100                        |
| Other (6).....                                  | 16,600           | 17,000            | 16,400       | — 400                       | 200                        |
| <b>Government</b> .....                         | 33,200           | 33,300            | 32,700       | — 100                       | 500                        |
| Federal.....                                    | 7,500            | 8,000             | 7,900        | — 500                       | — 400                      |
| State and local.....                            | 25,700           | 25,300            | 24,800       | 400                         | 900                        |
| <b>Great Falls Area (Cascade County)</b> .....  | 20,700           | 21,200            | 20,700       | — 500                       | 00                         |
| Manufacturing.....                              | 2,700            | 2,700             | 2,900        | 00                          | — 200                      |
| Contract construction.....                      | 2,300            | 2,600             | 2,200        | — 300                       | 100                        |
| Transportation and utilities.....               | 2,100            | 2,200             | 2,400        | — 100                       | — 300                      |
| Trade, wholesale and retail.....                | 6,700            | 6,700             | 6,500        | 00                          | 200                        |
| Services and miscellaneous (7).....             | 4,300            | 4,400             | 4,200        | — 100                       | 100                        |
| Government.....                                 | 2,600            | 2,600             | 2,500        | 00                          | 100                        |

(1) Estimates include all full and part-time wage and salary workers who worked or received pay during the pay period ending nearest the 15th of the month. Proprietors, firm members, personnel of the armed forces, domestic servants, and self-employed persons are excluded.

(2) Preliminary estimates based on return from samples of 652 selected Montana establishments.

(3) Figures Previously released have been revised on return from 1027 such establishments.

(4) Includes fabricated metal products, machinery except electrical, furniture, stone and clay products.

(5) Includes apparel, chemicals, and miscellaneous manufacturing products.

(6) Includes commercial trade schools, auto repair services and garages, miscellaneous repair services and hand trades, motion pictures, amusements and recreation, medical and health, law offices and professional services, non-profit membership organizations and businesses not otherwise classified.

(7) Same as (6) above, also includes finance, real estate and mining.

## COMPARISON OF BASIC LABOR MARKET ACTIVITIES IN OCTOBER, 1958 AND OCTOBER, 1957

| Employment<br>Service<br>Office | New Job Applicants |      |           |       | Jobseekers in File |       |           |       | Job Placements |       |       |       |           |       |       |       | U. I. Claims |       |
|---------------------------------|--------------------|------|-----------|-------|--------------------|-------|-----------|-------|----------------|-------|-------|-------|-----------|-------|-------|-------|--------------|-------|
|                                 | Oct. 1958          |      | Oct. 1957 |       | Oct. 1958          |       | Oct. 1957 |       | Oct. 1957      |       |       |       | Oct. 1958 |       |       |       | Wk. 11-8     |       |
|                                 | Tot.               | Vet. | Tot.      | Vet.  | Tot.               | Vet.  | Tot.      | Vet.  | Ind.           | Ag.   | Tot.  | Vet.  | Ind.      | Ag.   | Tot.  | Vet.  | 1958         | 1957  |
| Anaconda                        | 109                | 2    | 105       | 76    | 244                | 82    | 30        | 585   | 565            | 99    | 22    | 297   | 319       | 86    | 258   | 166   |              |       |
| Billings                        | 188                | 14   | 111       | 334   | 947                | 24    | 510       | 309   | 819            | 34    | 405   | 274   | 679       | 277   | 615   | 642   |              |       |
| Bozeman                         | 100                | 8    | 501       | 111   | 825                | 76    | 173       | 209   | 382            | 87    | 177   | 527   | 764       | 89    | 103   | 86    |              |       |
| Butte                           | 122                | 69   | 1444      | 531   | 1757               | 61    | 143       | 3     | 146            | 55    | 109   | 23    | 132       | 46    | 1,57  | 1,450 |              |       |
| Cut Bank                        | 10                 | 82   | 196       | 77    | 144                | 5     | 86        | 37    | 123            | 65    | 71    | 20    | 91        | 42    | 127   | 111   |              |       |
| Dillon                          | 10                 | 25   | 137       | 47    | 182                | 3     | 38        | 64    | 102            | 59    | 44    | 63    | 107       | 51    | 89    | 97    |              |       |
| Glascow                         | 90                 | 28   | 119       | 25    | 83                 | 1     | 159       | 19    | 178            | 75    | 165   | 18    | 183       | 39    | 123   | 119   |              |       |
| Glendive                        | 2                  | 1    | 10        | 21    | 95                 | 2     | 72        | 42    | 114            | 34    | 94    | 77    | 171       | 75    | 63    | 53    |              |       |
| Great Falls                     | 40                 | 36   | 207       | 102   | 350                | 350   | 147       | 192   | 535            | 176   | 249   | 14    | 433       | 152   | 569   | 595   |              |       |
| Hamilton                        | 4                  | 12   | 167       | 50    | 77                 | 50    | 77        | 246   | 323            | 62    | 45    | 232   | 277       | 38    | 84    | 100   |              |       |
| Havre                           | 89                 | 28   | 110       | 13    | 52                 | 53    | 157       | 87    | 245            | 86    | 157   | 71    | 228       | 90    | 180   | 107   |              |       |
| Helena                          | 325                | 92   | 504       | 144   | 336                | 11    | 111       | 30    | 141            | 63    | 109   | 61    | 170       | 84    | 296   | 253   |              |       |
| Kalispell                       | 122                | 88   | 241       | 60    | 689                | 155   | 232       | 31    | 263            | 76    | 231   | 41    | 272       | 102   | 590   | 657   |              |       |
| Leavittstown                    | 52                 | 26   | 112       | 49    | 134                | 4     | 63        | 38    | 101            | 53    | 61    | 27    | 88        | 34    | 79    | 111   |              |       |
| Lavergne                        | 128                | 24   | 110       | 27    | 200                | 32    | 190       | 52    | 84             | 15    | 99    | 31    | 66        | 14    | 80    | 191   |              |       |
| Miles City                      | 125                | 24   | 89        | 36    | 166                | 35    | 102       | 30    | 100            | 51    | 151   | 45    | 107       | 43    | 150   | 62    |              |       |
| Missoula                        | 285                | 71   | 386       | 113   | 874                | 212   | 21        | 24    | 50             | 254   | 116   | 194   | 32        | 226   | 115   | 446   |              |       |
| Polson                          | 4                  | 11   | 74        | 16    | 130                | 26    | 167       | 101   | 208            | 91    | 96    | 70    | 166       | 41    | 116   | 24    |              |       |
| Shelby                          | 67                 | 20   | 75        | 27    | 174                | 40    | 92        | 51    | 143            | 73    | 131   | 34    | 165       | 88    | 120   | 144   |              |       |
| Sidney                          | 60                 | 28   | 61        | 8     | 59                 | 11    | 84        | 42    | 126            | 52    | 46    | 37    | 83        | 24    | 64    | 44    |              |       |
| Thompson Falls                  | 55                 | 22   | 73        | 35    | 177                | 53    | 25        | —     | 25             | 10    | 53    | 4     | 57        | 15    | 98    | 201   |              |       |
| Wolf Point                      | 80                 | 23   | 66        | 20    | 199                | 52    | 40        | 43    | 92             | 31    | 55    | 35    | 140       | 66    | 130   | 101   |              |       |
| TOTALS                          | 3,619              | 950  | 2,444     | 1,199 | 8,586              | 2,350 | 8,041     | 2,548 | 2,930          | 2,196 | 5,135 | 1,791 | 2,687     | 2,234 | 4,921 | 1,659 | 5,490        | 6,465 |

Include 97 claims of the Federal Employees UC Program, 136 same a year ago.

## AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS IN SELECTED MONTANA INDUSTRIES

(Produced in co-operation with United States Bureau of Labor Statistics)  
(Hours and earnings data exclude administrative and salaried personnel)

| INDUSTRY  | Average Weekly Earnings |                   |              | Average Weekly Hours |                   |              | Average Hourly Earnings |                   |              |
|---|-------------------------|-------------------|--------------|----------------------|-------------------|--------------|-------------------------|-------------------|--------------|
|   | Oct. (1)<br>1958        | Sept. (2)<br>1958 | Oct.<br>1957 | Oct. (1)<br>1958     | Sept. (2)<br>1958 | Oct.<br>1957 | Oct. (1)<br>1958        | Sept. (2)<br>1958 | Oct.<br>1957 |
| All Manufacturing                               | \$95.05                 | \$95.32           | \$85.39      | 41.7                 | 40.9              | 39.3         | \$2.28                  | \$2.33            | \$2.17       |
| Durable goods                                   | 90.96                   | 91.41             | 83.84        | 40.4                 | 40.5              | 38.5         | 2.25                    | 2.26              | 2.18         |
| Primary metals                                  | 91.10                   | 90.96             | 89.36        | 38.6                 | 38.6              | 39.2         | 2.36                    | 2.36              | 2.28         |
| Non-durable goods                               | 102.49                  | 102.61            | 88.21        | 44.6                 | 41.7              | 40.8         | 2.30                    | 2.46              | 2.16         |
| Food and kindred products                       | 90.93                   | 90.93             | 76.72        | 46.7                 | 43.1              | 43.1         | 1.93                    | 2.02              | 1.78         |
| All Mining                                      | 95.49                   | 95.15             | 97.64        | 37.6                 | 37.3              | 38.9         | 2.54                    | 2.55              | 2.51         |
| Metal mining                                    | 92.72                   | 92.33             | 93.96        | 38.0                 | 38.0              | 38.5         | 2.44                    | 2.44              | 2.44         |
| Transportation and Utilities (except railroads) | 90.35                   | 88.08             | 94.66        |                      |                   |              |                         |                   |              |
| Transportation (except railroads)               | 90.13                   | 94.84             | 116.16       |                      |                   |              |                         |                   |              |
| Utilities and communication                     | 86.95                   | 85.13             | 84.21        | 40.8                 | 39.8              | 40.9         | 2.13                    | 2.14              | 2.14         |

(1) Preliminary estimate. (2) Figures previous to released have been revised on more complete returns.

UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION  
COMMISSION OF MONTANA

MITCHELL BUILDING

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